(SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) One representation regarding promotion of a Scheduled Caste employees was received from office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes|Scheduled Tribes during the period from 1-1-1989 to 1-7-1989.

(b) The date of receipt of representation is 19-6-1989. The representation is under examination.

Demands of All India Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Association

2667. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Association has demanded rank for rank equal pension, employment upto 58 years, re-employment of ex-servicemen and resettlement of ex-servicemen in self employment schemes; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government's reaction to specific demands referred to in Part (a) of the Question is as follows:—

(i) *Rank for Rank Pension:* This demand was considered by the 4th Central Pay Commission. The 4th Pay Commission did not find justification for conceding this demand. The recommendation of the Commission was accepted by the Government.

(ii) *Assured employment upto 58 years of age:* The High Level Committee on problems of Ex-Servicemen had recommended that this demand should be studied and modalities worked out by Government. Accordingly, this demand was studied by a Committee in the Department of Personnel and Training, which after examining all aspects of the proposal, did not find it to be a practicable.

(iii) *Self-employment schemes:* For helping ex-servicemen to take to self-employment, new schemes namely Self Employment for Ex-Servicemen-I and SEMFEX-II have been started.

Free Medical Facilities for Rural Poor

2668. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Government national scheme/planning for rendering free medical facilities to the rural poor;

(b) if so, what is the number of persons covered by this scheme; and

(c) whether Government have any programme to bring the whole population under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUB ALAM): (a) to (c) Primary Health Care facilities for the rural population are provided by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations through a network of Institutions set up under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme. The entire rural population is sought to be covered by the end of the 7th Plan under Primary Health Care System. Upto 31-3-89, 121767 Sub-Cenrets, 19139 Primary Health Centres and 1665 Community Health Centres are reported to have been set up in different States and Union Territories. While a portion of the expenditure on Sub-Centres is provided as Central assistance to States in the shape of Rs. 2,000|- per annum per sub-centre for essential drugs and medicines, upto Rs. 1,000 per annum as rent (if no Govt. building is available) and the salary of the Female Health Worker and a Voluntary Worker, the rest of the expenditure on Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres is met from the State Sector Budget.